**LINKED - *Leveraging Innovation for a Network of Knowledge on Education***

**Kick-off Meeting: Brussels, 17-18 March 2010**

**Initial observations on existing online brokerage platforms**

Below is a list of some existing brokerage platforms (mainly dealing with education, but also other areas of public policy). For each brokerage platform a URL link and brief description is provided. While browsing these online platforms, please consider the following (to be discussed openly together with all partners after you have had some time for viewing):

1. What are your impressions of each website in terms of the

* Platform’s usability: i.e. how it is structured, navigation possibilities etc.
* Text on platform
* Clarity of description of aims and what they offer
* Organization of access to evidence
* Search options available (e.g. simple search/advanced search, keyword search, by pre-defined list of topics etc.)
* Contact possibilities
* Links to further information on related websites of interest

1. a) What is the quality of the written brokerage outputs available (e.g. research reviews): i.e. relevance, accessibility, length, format etc. ?

b) What is the quality of the audio/visual brokerage outputs available (e.g. podcast interviews, videos): i.e. relevance, accessibility, length, structure, appropriateness etc. ?

1. a) Which features from these existing brokerage platforms do you think we should use and/or disregard for the LINKED brokerage platform?

b) Please suggest any additional features to be included on the LINKED brokerage platform

**Examples of existing brokerage platforms :**

1. **Centre for the Use of Research and Evidence in Education (CUREE)**:

**URL Link:** <http://www.curee-paccts.com>

**Main aims:** To promote the use of evidence by building bridges between academic research and educational policy and practice by making research and evidence useful and attractive to practitioners and policy makers; increasing the interest and skills of practitioners and policy-makers in using and interpreting research findings; and using processes as a means of enhancing teaching and learning.

**Target Group:** Practitioners, school leaders, policy makers

**Outputs:** Various, including: technical reports, articles, activities, PowerPoint presentations, roadmaps, multi-media resources, research-based policy briefs and other tools.

1. **The Evidence for Policy and Practice Information and Coordinating Centre (EPPI Centre)**:

**URL Link:** <http://www.eppi.ioe.ac.uk>

**Initiator:** Social Science Research Unit at the Institute of Education, University of London.

**Main aims:** To make reliable research findings accessible to all stakeholders by carrying out systematic reviews and developing review methods in social science and public policy.

**Target groups:** Policy makers, practitioners and researchers

**Outputs:** Systematic reviews across a range of topics including: education, health promotion, employment, social care, crime and justice, and review methodology guidelines

1. **Danish Clearinghouse for Educational Research**

**URL Link:** <http://www.dpu.dk/site.aspx?p=9882>

**Initiator: Danish School of Education, University of Aarhus**

**Main aims:** To provide an overview of the current best knowledge of good educational practice and communicate it to practitioners and policy makers.

**Target groups:** Practitioners and policy makers

**Outputs:** Mainly systematic reviews, but also summaries of international reviews, research mapping and research assessment

1. **Dutch Knowledge Chamber**

**URL Link:** <http://www.minocw.nl/english/organisation/808/The-Knowledge-Chamber.html>.

**Initiator:** Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture and Science

**Main aims:** To ensure policy making is informed by research.

**Target groups:** Policy makers

**Outputs:** ‘Validated knowledge’ deriving from analytical studies, evaluations of policy tools

1. **ERIC Education Resources Information Center**

**URL Link:** <http://www.eric.ed.gov/>

**Initiator:** U.S. Department of Education's Institute of Education Sciences

**Main aims:** To provide a comprehensive, easy-to-use, searchable, Internet-based bibliographic and full-text database of education research and information to support the use of educational research and information to improve practice in learning, teaching, educational decision-making, and research.

**Target groups: Practitioners, policy makers and researchers**

**Outputs:** Practitioners, policy makers, and researchers

1. **What Works Clearinghouse (WWC)**

**URL Link:** <http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc>

**Initiator:** U.S. Department of Education's Institute of Education Sciences

**Main aim:** To provide a central and trusted source of scientific evidence for what works in education.

**Target groups:** Practitioners, policy makers, and researchers

**Outputs:** User-friendly practice guides with research-based recommendations for schools and classrooms, assessment of research evidence, development of standards for reviewing and synthesizing education research, and registry of education evaluation researchers

***See also their partner site***: **Doing What Works** (<http://dww.ed.gov/index.cfm>) which translates research-based practices into practical tools to improve classroom instruction.

1. **Canadian Health Services Research Foundation (CHSRF)**

**URL Link:** <http://www.chsrf.ca/home_f.php#4>

**Initiator**: Canadian Federal Government

**Main aims:** To bring researchers and decision makers together to create and apply knowledge to improve health services for Canadians.

**Target groups:** Researchers and policy makers

**Outputs:** Various, including : Brokering digest, Promising practices in research use, podcasts, videos etc.